

**1960-1961**

My residence, post office address and citizenship is as stated below next to my name.

I believe that I am the original, first inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled "Ankle Brace", the specification of which is filed herewith.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

<u>Serial No. 08/878,181</u>	<u>6/18/97</u>	<u>Pending</u>
(Appl./Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status)

I hereby appoint the following attorney to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Edward S. Irons, Reg. No. 16,541

Address all telephone calls to Edward S. Irons at (202) 362-5332

Address all telefax communications to Edward S. Irons at  
(202) 362-5332.

Address all correspondence to Edward S. Irons  
3945 - 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20016

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of Sole Inventor: Meldon L. Talbot

Inventor's Signature Meldon L. Talbot

Date: 11/11/80 Citizenship: USA

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00307 25590250

Applicant/Patentee: Meldon L. Talbot  
Serial No.: To be Assigned  
Filed: Herewith  
For: Ankle Brace

VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY  
STATUS (37 CFR 1.9(f) AND 1.27(b)) — INDEPENDENT INVENTOR

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code to the United States Patent and Trademark Office in regard to the invention entitled Ankle Brace by inventor(s) Meldon L. Talbot described in the application filed herewith.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a non-profit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern, or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed, or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

☒ No such person, concern or organization

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the patent to which this verified statement is directed.

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING Meldon L. Talbot  
SIGNATURE Meldon L. Talbot DATE 11/1/00